



Greetings from the President

Dear Young Scientists,

Welcome to the 8th Young Scientists Meeting of the Julius Kühn-Institute at the JKI headquarters in Quedlinburg.

The meeting has seen several innovations over the recent years, such as the get together with a tasting of the JKI's own wine creations. Another novelty are short, high speed poster presentations, where participants let their creativity run free and even put their talk in verses or brought a jar of candy smell. This year's rerun of the elevator talks is highly anticipated.

Like the meeting on a small scale, the entire JKI is constantly undergoing changes. Construction works at Braunschweig and Dossenheim update the research facilities to modern standards with state-of-the-art equipment. The recently perceived endangerment of pollinators by agrochemicals led to the foundation of an Institute for Bee Protection which is going to be established in 2016.

To fulfill the various and ever-changing responsibilities in future-oriented basic research, translation of research results into practical applications and counseling the German government on agricultural, horticultural and forestry issues, top level scientific expertise, dedication and networking are essential. With half of the institute's scientific staff facing retirement within the next fifteen years, it is a major objective to preserve the acquired knowledge and skills, and keep young scientists working at the JKI.

To this end, we welcome Kathrin Lehmann, head of Human Resources Unit, to this year's meeting and look forward to her key note talk on the perspective of young scientists at our institute. In addition to this 'infrastructure talk', which has become a tradition lately, Cornelia Adler will give the second key note on the topic of stored product protection.

I am convinced that all participants will personally benefit from the NWF by expanding their knowledge and by increasing their presentation skills. In addition, you get the chance to get to know each other during the joint evening events and expand your personal network, an important base for your future professional life.

I hope you all enjoy your stay at Quedlinburg and return home enriched by the experience and inspired both scientifically and socially.

Quedlinburg, October 2015

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'G. Backhaus'.

Dr. Georg F. Backhaus
President of the JKI